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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Phelps et al. CONFIRMATION NO.:

7837

SERIAL NO.:

09/974,722

GROUP NO.:

1711

FILING DATE:

October 9, 2001

EXAMINER:

Boykin, Terressa M.

TITLE:

ORGANO-TITANATE CATALYSTS FOR PREPARING PURE

MACROCYCLIC OLIGOESTERS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

This paper is responsive to the Office action, Paper No. 11, mailed from the United States Patent and Trademark Office on September 17, 2003, for the above-identified patent application. Applicants respectfully request that the amendments and remarks that follow be considered and that the rejections made in the Office action be withdrawn. Applicants submit that in view of the amendments and remarks herein, all claims are in condition for allowance.

This paper is submitted on Tuesday, January 20, 2004, along with a one-month extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a)(1). Please note that January 17, 2004, falls on a Saturday, and Monday, January 19, 2004, is a federal holiday. Applicants believe that the appropriate fee is submitted herewith, but if any additional fee is due, the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

In response to the Office action of September 17, 2003, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

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